THE DISTRICT COURTS

How News Gathering Has Developed.

IN THE OLDEN TIMES

THE MORNING AND AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS.

Utilizing Many Modern Inventions for Securing Quick Results.

By C. Fred Cook.

It is almost an every-day occurrence for the representative of The Evening Star at the United States court house—popularly called the City Hall—to be asked: "You can't get any news from here in the paper after half-past 12 o'clock, can you?" Those who make the inquiry are connected with the bar, all of them being intelligent, learned members of one of the leading professions. Hence, it is apparent that to a surprising degree there exists a lack of information regarding the scope, capability and facilities of a great, modern, afternoon newspaper, such as is The Evening Star. A morning paper, as a rule, is not required to give give much consideration to time in gathering the court news. Its reporter may put in his appearance at the city hall at 2 o'clock, 2:30 o'clock or even as late as 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and, proceeding leisurely and by condensing notes, may collect the necessary data and be in readiness to depart promptly at 4 o'clock, the hour the building is closed. He then has ten hours before him, in the event he should need that much leeway, to prepare his "copy." Furthermore, the morning paper reporter possesses the very appreciable advantage of having before him, when he is writing out his notes, the news of the day from the courts as published in the afternoon papers.

With The Evening Star the situation is very different, for time is a most important consideration. The reader has spread before him each week-day afternoon all the news that has materialized right up to the moment of going to press. This statement is to be taken literally.

Up-to-Date Reporting.

Returning to the inquiry of the lawyer who, even though he may have been an active practitioner for nearly half a century, is under the impression that happenings of public interest at the City Hall after 12:30 o'clock of a certain day cannot be given to the public through The Evening Star until the following afternoon, sufficient enlightenment may be afforded by reference to one important case. Take, for example, the trial of Mrs. Lola Ida Bonine, which was the climax of the famous Kenmore Hotel tragedy. By reason of its element of mystery the Bonine case from the start excited the most intense public interest. The Evening Star, of course, published full reports of the trial. One afternoon during the hearing court was adjourned at seventeen minutes past 3 o'clock. The Evening Star went to press—that is, the form containing the type for its last page was locked—less than four minutes later. The issue of the paper that day contained the full report of the trial, as usual, including the entire testimony of the witness who had been under examination up to 3:17 o'clock, and the fact was noted that at the hour mentioned the proceedings had been discontinued until the following morning.

The difference between 12:30 o'clock and 3:17 o'clock is two hours and forty-seven minutes. However, there was nothing out of the ordinary, so far as time is concerned, in the reporting of the Bonine trial. Every week day of the year the court house is "covered" right up to the hour of going to press, and as the several courts adjourn, except on occasions of special moment, at 3 o'clock, the readers of The Evening Star have at their disposal the same afternoon the complete court news of the day.

Telephone and Typewriter.

The value of the telephone as a means of transmitting the news to the city editor and his assistants up to the very last moment of the newspaper day cannot be overestimated. A messenger, who uses a bicycle, is, after 10 o'clock a.m., constantly making trips with copy from the City Hall to The Star office. He starts on his windup ride of the afternoon seldom later than five minutes before 3 o'clock. After that the telephone is used exclusively. The Evening Star has an independent telephone exchange, one of the instruments, connected with The Star's "central" by private wire, being located in the office of the clerk of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. The paper's representative may, in a moment, engage in conversation with any individual on duty at The Star building. In sending late news by 'phone the "story" is dictated direct to one of several expert typewriters, who are provided with the head harness ear pieces such as central office telephone operators use. Paragraph by paragraph, as dictated, the copy is handed to a desk editor, by whom it is read, and then sent like a flash through pneumatic tubes to the composing room.

For the Bonine trial telephone connection was made with an ante-room just outside Criminal Court No. 1. In this court the hearing occurred. Two reporters were assigned to cover the trial. The greater part of the day one looked after the general introduction and the descriptive part of the story, while the other devoted his entire time and energies to recording all of the testimony, the arguments of counsel and the remarks of the court; in other words, made a report of the actual proceedings. Bicycle messengers made trips with copy at intervals of about ten minutes. Beginning at 2:45 o'clock the two men joined forces, and, by a sort of relay system, reported in full the happenings of the last stages of the trial each day. One reporter would follow the proceedings for about five minutes, and then go to the telephone and dictate from his notes, his colleague taking post in the court room. As soon as No. 1 finished at the 'phone he returned to the reporters' desk, and, No. 2 being relieved, hastened to the wire. In this manner it was possible to give in the afternoon paper a most complete recital of a criminal inquiry that, as stated, was of absorbing interest.

"Covering" the City Hall.

Except in connection with proceedings of unusual importance, such as the Bonine trial, one reporter "covers" the City Hall for The Evening Star. The field includes the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, Equity Court No. 1, Equity Court No. 2, Circuit Court No. 1, Circuit Court No. 2, Criminal Court No. 1, Criminal Court No. 2, the Probate Court, the Court in General Term, the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia sitting as a United States district court, the Bankruptcy Court, the office of the auditor of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, the grand jury, the office of the United States attorney for the District of Columbia and the offices of the United States marshal for the District of Columbia, the register of wills and the recorder of deeds, as well as the law and equity sides of the office of the clerk of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, where the new cases are instituted and where marriage licenses and naturalization papers are issued. With all the departments mentioned in active operation at the same time, inertia, so far as the reporter for an afternoon newspaper is concerned, is an unknown quantity. It seems to be the rule, too, that when anything of special interest is occupying the attention of one court, every other court and office in the building must forthwith get busy to the extent of immediately requiring the reporter's presence and attention.

Speed for an Afternoon Paper.

For an afternoon newspaper the copy from which the type is set must, ordinarily, be written without delay—almost at the moment the event which is reported occurs. Time is too precious to permit the jotting down of notes and the leisurely writing of the story afterward. In making a running report of a criminal trial that is to be in progress throughout an entire day the reporter for an afternoon paper who would pause, say, to make notes of the opening address by the prosecuting attorney to the jury, instead of following the remarks and writing out the same as copy as the speech was being delivered, nine times out of ten would never be able to catch up.

Several of the justices of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia announce their opinions "off-hand;" that is, not from manuscript. In important cases the delivery of opinions consumes an hour and one-half or two hours. The newspaper reporter must follow closely the words of the justice, and, from the mass of legal phrases, put on paper just as rapidly as a pencil can be made to move a statement, clear and intelligible to the non-legal mind of the average newspaper reader, covering the decision. Notwithstanding any hurry and bustle, extreme care has to be exercised in reporting court proceedings, for a mistake in a name or the omission of a word of three letters may result in a libel suit.

A Daily Court Record.

The Washington public of today should congratulate itself on the sumptuousness of the feast spread before it every secular afternoon, in comparison with the situation that existed half a hundred years ago. Every item of news from the court, obtainable up to 3 o'clock, now appears in The Evening Star the afternoon of the day the incidents reported occur. When this paper sprang into existence, in December, 1852, such handling of news was not possible. There were no telephones, no typewriters and no typesetting machines in those days. The Evening Star was not two years old January 3, 1854. In the four-page issue of that date the only legal reference to be found appeared under the heading, "City Items," and was as follows:

"The courts.—The Circuit Court sat today for the purpose of hearing motions. The Criminal Court did not sit today, having adjourned over until tomorrow. The only criminal law business transacted was before the grand jury, who were in session for the finding of true bills against parties indicted, and for other matters connected with their duties."

For three days thereafter nothing was published from the courts. In the issue of January 7, 1854, however, the following appeared:

"Criminal Court.—That interminable affair, the Gardiner case, still occupies the attention of the court to the exclusion of all other business. Yesterday and today the lawyers were occupied in arguing a point of law, but there are so many points of law continually brought forward in this case that they appear to increase rather than diminish as fast as they are asked. The enigma of the Sphinx was nothing in comparison with the Gardiner law writ, and we doubt much whether all the difficulties will be cleared away while there are dollars in the defendant's purse for making them. Some fresh testimony, however, it is expected, will be brought forward at the beginning of next week that will throw a new light on the subject."

Ten Years' Progress.

At the end of ten years material progress had been made. The issue of January 15, 1864, included a second edition. In the first edition was a report, embracing about two hundred words, of the Dixon-Magill shooting case, beginning "Yesterday this case was resumed." The second edition contained a brief summary of the proceedings in court that day, as follows:

"With the examination of Mr. James McGill (watchman at Willard's) the testimony for the defense closed, and Mr. G. W. McGill was recalled to explain his conversation with Mr. Creecy. Witness is certain that he did not use the remarks Mr. Creecy attributed to him (in relation to the Virginia farmer).

"Mr. Creecy was also recalled to explain his evidence."

When the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia was organized March 23, 1863, Mr. James Croggon was present as the representative of The Evening Star. He had been covering the City Hall news since November, 1860, and continued as court reporter until the year 1894. Mr. Croggon has a fund of interesting reminiscences bearing on this particular field of local newspaper work. I recently inquired of him regarding the manner the news was gathered in the days of The Star's infancy.

"How was the news of the courts reported in the olden time, you ask?" began Mr. Croggon, in reply. "Why, for many years, it may be said, there were no court reporters, but simply news gatherers, who, as occasion seemed to require, ascertained what was going on by glancing over the minute books of the clerks. Of course, there were occasions when the public looked for more extended notices and then the newspapers gave fuller reports, particularly of trials for murder, and arson cases in which government property was involved. The generality of cases, however, received only brief notice, giving the name of the person fense, the verdict, sentence and at times the directly concerned, the nature of the ofname of the lawyer for the defense.

Court Reporters Unknown.

"In the days of which I am speaking such a person as a court reporter was unknown, for the courts and offices located in the city hall building constituted but a small portion of the territory the few local newspaper men were expected to cover. It was only in rare instances that a reporter felt called upon to spend much time in the judicial departments. Trials and legal proceedings were often passed by without a mention, and only exceptionally interesting court matters received more than a paragraph in print. I recall that the execution of a man for wife murder was noticed in the public press some years before this time to the extent of only three lines, and that was a case that had excited great interest in the community.

"At the time in question there were in operation the circuit court, with its law and equity branches, and the criminal court. The latter had jurisdiction principally over offenses against the person and was regarded as the most important, so far as the furnishing of news was concerned. But even the criminal business that received the attention of the reporters was given to the public merely as a bare mention. The proceedings of the circuit court were accorded only scant space. In fact, equity and district court business was unknown to the general public. Probate business found a place in the papers only when some peculiar question or the estate of a very prominent person was involved.

"The duties now performed by the recorder of deeds then devolved on the clerk of the court. Although at times there were interesting transactions in real property, seldom were they made public by the office except for the purpose of giving confirmation to the rumor of a sale. It was the period, though, when the dollar mark was seldom used in connection with the value of ground and the prices per foot were more often expressed by mills than by cents.

"The work of the newsgatherer in taking in the city hall did not include even the record of marriage licenses. Usually a single quarter of an hour was sufficient in which to learn if anything of public interest had transpired. The clerk of the criminal court was looked on as the possessor of everything of value to the newsgatherer.

"When, in the year 1852, The Evening Star made its appearance, items that had previously been passed as not worthy of note were given to the public as matters of general interest. More attention was paid to the court end of the city hall building than ever before, and gradually those employed there realized what the reporter wanted. His work was thereby lightened to some extent. It was, however, through association with members of the bar that pointers were obtained. By asking a few questions facts were learned and written up. While as a rule the lawyers were accommodating, there were some, especially when they were on the losing side of a case, who attempted to impart false information. Through the courtesy of the court clerks, though, it was always possible to ascertain and print the truth.

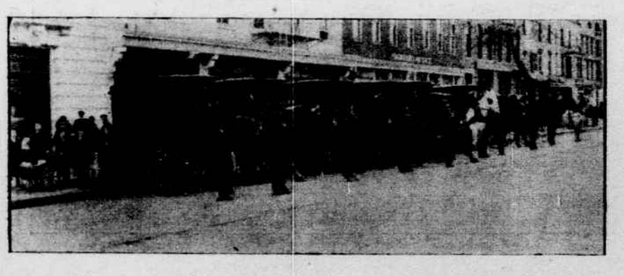
How Court News Was Obtained.

"The effort of The Evening Star was not only to cater to, but to educate the public taste, and by a more thorough canvass for court news—though the means were crude in comparison with those of the present—the public was given an appetite for the proceedings of the judiciary that remains normal to this day.

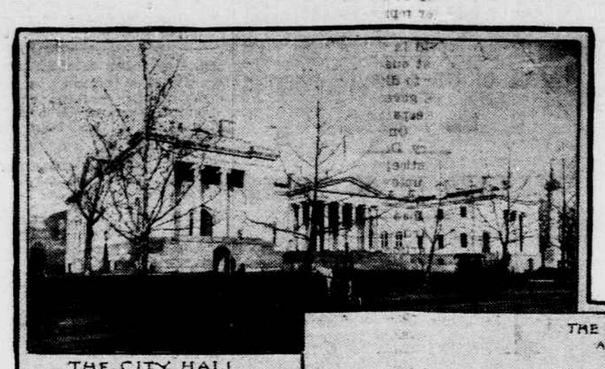
"A cheerful 'Good morning,' followed by a question as to whether anything had happened of public interest, generally was successful in drawing forth something, but official documents were never handed over to the reporter for perusal out of the sight of the custodian. In fact, it was usually 'on the fly,' or by question and answer, that news was obtained. The Star took the lead in publishing court news in such shape as to be intelligible to the layman.

"In the year 1860," concluded Mr. Croggon, "the offices of the city corporation were located in the western portion of the court house building, with a large room on the first floor for a council chamber. The members of the board of aldermen were domiciled on the second floor. In the eastern portion of the building were the courts, the offices of the clerk of the court and of the marshal. Some of the rooms on the upper floor were used by attorneys, while in the basement the two janitors had their places of residence."

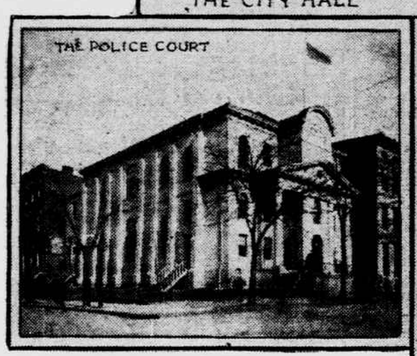
Mr. Croggon, as reporter for the National Republican from 1860 to 1862, and for The Star from 1862 until 1894, included the courts in his daily rounds in quest of news. From the date of the organization of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, nearly forty years ago, The Evening Star has been reperesented at the court house, through permanent detail, by three reporters only; Mr. Croggon until 1894; Mr. Robert W. Dutton, now chief engineer of the District fire department, from 1892 until December 1, 1897—he and Mr. Croggon having served together at the city hall for a year or more—and by myself since the latter date.



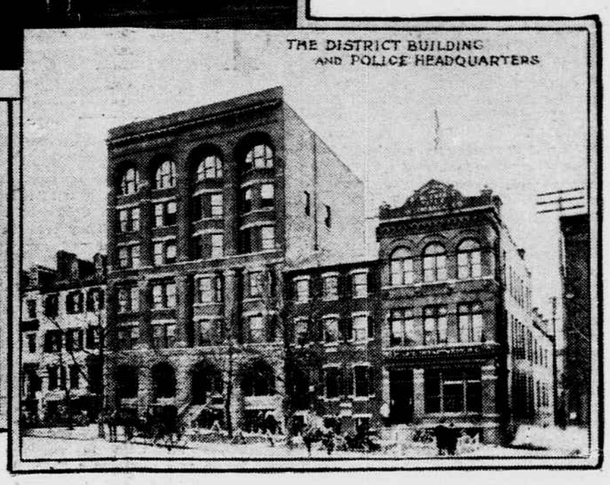
THE STAR DELIVERY WAGONS.



THE CITY HALL



THE POLICE COURT



THE DISTRICT BUILDING AND POLICE HEADQUARTERS

TO PROTECT THE CITY

The District Police and Fire Departments.

A CREDITABLE RECORD

FIRES FOUGHT BY VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS.

How a Small Police Force Secures Safety and Order in a Big City —Up-to-Date Reporting.

By T. H. Brooks.

It is interesting to note the steady improvement in the protective departments of the District government, the policemen and fire fighters, during the half century as shown by the news columns of The Star. From hardly more than volunteer organizations, they have grown in size and strength to be standards for the authorities of other cities. Much depends upon the protection departments to insure a successful administration of affairs, whether the governing power be elective or appointive. Their co-operation is essential to insure success. The term protection is applied to these branches of the city government in its broadest sense. It does not mean that the firemen should extinguish a blaze and the policemen make arrests and let the matter drop there. The duties of these men, who must be brave and true, cover a responsibility that does not rest upon any other set of officials, and it is a responsibility which the local departments have met in a manner that has reflected credit upon them as well as upon the higher officials who have been their sponsors from time to time. Congress has enacted laws year after year and the District Commissioners have adopted minor regulations, but without their proper enforcement the taxpayers would be in a sorry plight. During the fifty years these departments have kept pace with the times, and now have all the modern improvements and methods that are to be found in any big city. Indeed, the local departments are already far ahead of similar branches of many older cities, except that in most others the number of men employed in such work is greater in proportion to the population.

The Police Department.

Fewer crimes of a serious nature have been committed here than elsewhere and fewer criminals have escaped. It is true that more attention is paid to minor matters by the members of the police department than by the police of other cities, and the people naturally expect more from them. The methods employed are entirely different from those in many other cities. For instance, no charges or fees are assessed for work done. Then again charges of bribery are not repeatedly made against those entrusted with the policing of the District, and the department has been comparatively free from scandals such as are experienced in the cities where the police department is nothing but a political machine. Politics has been eliminated from the local department as much as possible, and it has been many years since charges of a political nature have been made against its management.

Police methods have so much improved that arrests are made and disturbances quelled without attracting notice and without crowds of curious people following and disturbing the police. Street riots are now unknown here, and so well is the city cared for by the guardians of the peace, that it is possible for ladies to go from one part of the city to another at any hour, day or night, with but little danger of annoyance. The introduction of the telephone and patrol system increased the efficiency of the force and gave the citizens better protection, while it lessened the burdens of the patrolmen.

The present metropolitan police department was organized September 11, 1861, but before its organization the city had a police force.

The City Police and the U. S. Police.

About the beginning of the half century just ended there were two distinct organizations, one known as the city police and the other was the United States police, better known as the auxiliary guard. The former were paid by the city, the latter by the government. At that time the city was divided into seven wards and four city policemen did duty in each ward, two in the day time and two at night. There were about forty members of the government force. While the guardians were few the city was, of course, not nearly so large as it now is, and prior to the civil war the duties of the policemen did not make their task a severe one. They were under the disadvantage of having three sets of laws under which to prosecute offenders, and this condition of affairs existed until a few years ago. There was one set of laws for the city proper, another for the county and still another for Georgetown. Justices of the peace tried all police cases then. About the beginning of the war the policemen found life a burden, and every minute they were on duty their lives were in danger. Street riots were numerous and while the soldiers protected the city, they also caused extra work for the police. Drunkenness among the soldiers caused many riots and disorders of a serious nature, and to check them troops were assigned to regular police duty. Even with them there was more work than the combination force could possibly do. Until the close of the war the newly organized police force was not in a position to show what it was capable of doing under

Major Richard Sylvester,
Superintendent of Police.

normal conditions. When the metropolitan force was formed in 1861 it was composed of a superintendent, ten sergeants, who had charge of the precincts, and 150 patrolmen.

The Superintendents of Police.

Mr. William B. Webb was the department's first chief, but he held the position only a few months, resigning in order that he might resume the practice of law. He followed his profession until he was appointed as a member of the board of District Commissioners. Major A. C. Richards succeeded him as superintendent, and during his administration the force was largely increased. In 1867 twenty-five additional men were appointed, and those in command of the precincts were designated lieutenants, while the roundsmen were called sergeants. Thomas P. Morgan, William G. Brock, William McE. Dye, Samuel H. Walker, William G. Moore and Richard Sylvester followed in the order named, as chief of the department. Congress granted three increases during the term of the late Major Moore. Major Sylvester has been superintendent less than four years and has already succeeded in getting three substantial increases. The force now numbers 641 members, in addition to clerks, drivers and janitors. Many changes to increase the efficiency of the force have been made during the incumbency of Major Sylvester, and the department today is as free of corrupting influences as any other department in the country. Through the efforts of the present chief the laws relating to appointments have been changed so that members of the department are now secure in their places during good behavior, and the amount of pension has been increased. The policemen realize that The Evening Star has been their champion in all the many changes which have helped make the force a model one.

The District Fire Department.

The Washington fire department has also had its ups and downs. Strange as it may seem, the different companies worked against each other during the early part of the last half century. So great was the rivalry between the volunteer departments that street fights were common and fires were permitted to burn while the firemen fought. A great many changes have occurred in the conduct of the department during all these years, until Chief Dutton is able to boast that his department is first-class in every particular. It is true that departments in some of the larger cities possess appliances such as are not to be found here, but this is because they are not locally needed. The several chiefs of the department have always shown a disposition to get the latest improved fire-fighting appliances. Chief Dutton has managed to get a good increase during the short time he has been chief, and is responsible for a number of improvements made and for the excellent discipline that is now maintained.

The First Fire Department.

Early in the fifties there was a volunteer fire department, with John Peabody as

R. W. Dutton.
Chief Engineer of the Fire Department.

chief engineer. The companies composing the department were the Anacostia, Northern Liberty, Franklin, Perseverance, Union and Webster Hose and the American and Metropolitan hook and ladder companies. In those days the ringing of a bell notified the firemen that their services were wanted, and despite the fact that the members of the companies were scattered all over town, they usually made fairly good time running to fires, pulling the truck or hose after them. What were known as "Meigs" plugs were used over cisterns at the intersection of streets. These plugs were covered with heavy iron plates, and considerable difficulty was experienced in finding them in the winter time when they were covered with snow and ice. Many times the firemen were obliged to build fires and thaw away the ice and snow before they could reach the plugs. It was during the days of the volunteers that the street fights occurred, and sometimes streams of water had to be used to disperse the belligerents. During these combats houses were permitted to burn to the ground. This condition of affairs continued until 1864, when the present department was organized, with John H. Sessford as chief. Part of the old volunteer apparatus was utilized in the formation of the new organization, and the department was soon better equipped. The McClelland fire plug was put in operation about 1864, and the firemen no longer had the trouble of digging in the ice and snow and getting suctions from the canal, and sometimes from street gutters, as they had been compelled to do previous to this time. When the department was organized the privates received only $8 a month, but this amount was soon doubled. William Ellwood succeeded John H. Sessford as chief engineer, and after him came George Holmes, Martin Cronin, Joseph Parris and Robert W. Dutton. There are now 300 firemen in the department, with thirty-three engines, hose carriages and combination wagon. Three extra first-size upright engines and a modern truck are about to be put in service.

Police Reporting.

During the time the police force has been in existence a great change has been experienced in the matter of gathering news. There was a time when reporters had to depend almost wholly upon their friends to send them news in order to have it printed in the paper the day it occurred. Frequently the writers assigned to duty at headquarters remained in ignorance of what was going on until they were given information through the columns of the papers. Shortly after the force was organized a system of telegraphy was introduced, which was of material assistance to the members of the force, especially to the men in the detective office, who were always anxious to learn what was going on in the matter of thefts, murders or other crimes. While this system was a decided improvement, it was a poor forerunner of the present telephone system. In order to cover the city properly years ago the services of several reporters were necessary, while now only one reporter is needed to do the work, save when an emergency arises demanding a quick detailed investigation of an important and complex situation. The work of the police has also been lessened by the use of the telephone, and criminals do not have the same opportunity to get away as they did formerly. It requires but a few minutes instead of hours to give headquarters information that a crime has been committed, and as the telephone is so handy many more cases are reported. Years ago people counted small thefts up to profit and loss, but now they hasten to the police authorities, no matter how small an amount is stolen, and many of them will make repeated visits to keep the headquarters men on the alert for the offenders.

How the Police Are Informed.

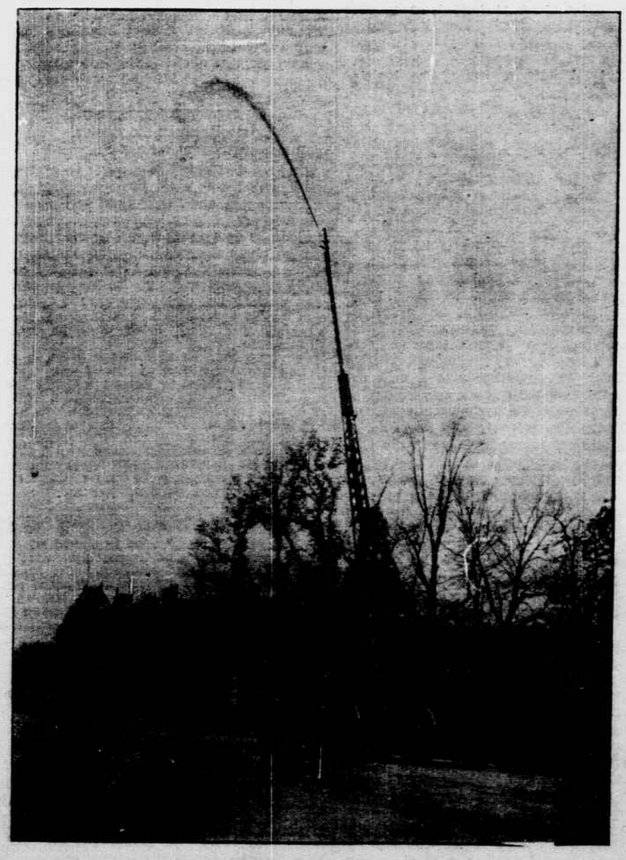
When anything unusual happens within the borders of the District nowadays the officers on duty in the several stations must telephone headquarters without delay. These reports are placed on a hook for the benefit of the newspaper reporters, unless it is something that the department wants to keep from the press, and then the reporters must do the best they can by means of what is technically known as "hustling" to learn the facts. Such instances are not very numerous now, although there was a time when officials of the department were anxious to keep news from becoming public. This was especially true with regard to robberies, when the number of such depredations so greatly exceeded the arrests that the detectives and their chief considered publication a reflection upon their ability to cope with the thieves. On one occasion, many years before Major Sylvester was appointed chief, the newspapers more than evened up matters with the department. Victims of the light-fingered gentry were requested to notify the papers of their losses, and so great was the number printed in the papers that the police gladly rescinded the order and opened the complaint books for inspection. With the improved method of sending information to headquarters it is possible for the police to learn of the commission of a serious crime long before the perpetrator has had an opportunity to get away, and the publicity given to the case by the press does not check the cause of justice.

It also makes it possible for The Star to inform its readers of such occurrences a few minutes after they have happened.

Up-to-Date Reporting.

A single instance will show how quickly news is given the public by a wide-awake afternoon paper like The Star.

Auditor Morris of the War Department was shot a few months ago, and his assailant immediately attempted suicide. The shooting occurred at twenty-five minutes after 2 o'clock in the afternoon. A telephone message to The Star from a reporter at police headquarters simply announced that an official in the Winder building had been shot. An emergency reporter was started immediately for the scene, but, quick as he was, he found that another Star reporter from police headquarters had arrived on his bicycle before him. Then the news, more or less detailed, began to reach The Star office over the telephone from various sources. The Star reporter on duty at the Treasury Department busied himself in learning the records of the two men. A reporter was dispatched to the Post Office Department, where the assailant had been employed, to learn something about him from that source. In the meantime the minutes were flying, but the composing room of The Star was prepared. The first column of the first page of The Star was kept open for this particular story. At ten minutes of 3 o'clock, only twenty-five minutes after the shooting, the detailed account began to come over the telephone, and it was taken on a typewriter by a very fast operator. The reporter who sent the particulars of the shooting was at police headquarters, a mile or more distant, when the assault was made, and it was five or ten minutes before the police department was informed. But in twenty-five minutes from the time of the shooting the reporter had learned of it, had reached the scene and had telephoned a complete account to The Star office. This, of course, was followed by other details, which were put into type as rapidly as possible, and the whole account made over a column in The Star. At twenty-one and a half minutes after 3 o'clock, not yet an hour after the shooting, the form was locked up and sent to the stereotype room, and at thirty-one minutes after 3 o'clock, one hour and six minutes after the pistol was fired, The Star was on the streets, on its regular scheduled time, and the complete story of the murder and attempted suicide was being read by hundreds of people.



THE WATER TOWER.

AN IDEAL RESORT.

The Advantages of Pinehurst for the Pleasure-Loving and Afflicted.

Pinehurst—an ideal winter resort where everyone from those of moderate means to those who demand the luxuries of life may find satisfactory accommodations in one of the four hotels or more than fifty cottages which compose the little village. It is located in that part of North Carolina known as "God's Country."

Pinehurst is beyond doubt one of the most unique and enjoyable places in the southern states, and from the standpoint of health cannot be excelled. Many of the fashionable set of Washington, Philadelphia, New York and Boston may be found here each winter enjoying its wonderful and exhilarating climate. It is an admirable resort for those afflicted with weak respiratory organs, for the tired and overworked, and for all who wish to recuperate their vital forces.

The hotels and cottages at Pinehurst are new and thoroughly modern, luxurious in appointments and furnishings. Among its attractions are its golf courses, shooting preserves and the casino. The country about Pinehurst is comparatively level and affords the real sport of horseback riding.

Longevity of Monarchs.

From the London Express.

If the risks of the trade of kingship are considerable, as the late King Humbert of Italy used to remark, the increase of the average longevity of monarchs during the past century is also considerable. Apropos of the death of the Belgian queen in her sixty-sixth year, it is worth recalling that in the year 1818 Europe possessed fifty-one sovereigns, of whom only eleven had passed their sixtieth year. Of these one alone had reached the age of seventy. In 1900, although, meanwhile, the number of crowned heads had been reduced to forty, the list of sexagenarians was nearly trebled. There were at that date twenty-nine sovereigns who had attained sixty and over. Of these seven had overstepped seventy, five of them were eighty, and one, the present Pope Leo XIII, was a nonagenarian.

Mr. Scratcher—"You know well enough everybody said you got a prize when you got me."

Mrs. Scratcher—"You know, dear, there are such things as booby prizes."—Boston Transcript.